

## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

1. (original) A wearing article, comprising a main body including a front part, a back part and a crotch part coupling the front and back parts, wherein:

the main body includes a pair of waist edges opposed to each other and a pair of leg edges opposed to each other,

a shirring is so formed in a substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body as to shorten a space between the front and back parts, and

a ratio of the length of the crotch part along the forward and backward direction to a length between the pair of waist edges is 1:15 to 1:2.

2. (original) A wearing article according to claim 1, wherein the shirring is formed by making folds in the substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body to shorten the substantially widthwise middle portion in a direction coupling the front and back parts and by retaining the wavy shape of the substantially widthwise middle portion.

3. (original) A wearing article according to claim 1, wherein the shirring is formed by the shrinking force of an elastic member for crotch attached to the substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body under a stretched state in a direction coupling the front and back parts.

4. (currently amended) A wearing article according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein elastic members for legs are attached along the leg edges under a stretched state.

5. (currently amended) A wearing article according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

6. (currently amended) A wearing article according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 5, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

7. (original) A method for producing a wearing article comprising a main body including a front part, a back part and a crotch part coupling the front and back parts, wherein a shirring is so formed in a substantially widthwise middle portion of the crotch part of the main body as to shorten a space between the front and back parts, comprising the steps of:

cutting a web to make leg openings to thereby form the crotch part,

attaching elastic members for waist to the web,

forming the shirring in the crotch part along a direction intersecting with a feeding direction of the web,

folding the web in two along the feeding direction of the web with the crotch part as a boundary and placing the front and back parts one over the other, and

applying side sealing between adjacent crotch parts and cutting the sealed portion to complete a single wearing article.

8. (original) A method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of attaching elastic members for legs along both leg openings under a stretched state.

9. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~7 or~~ 8, wherein the step of attaching an absorbent is carried out between the step of forming the shirring in the crotch part and the step of folding the web in two.

10. (new) A method according to claim 7, wherein the step of attaching an absorbent is carried out between the step of forming the shirring in the crotch part and the step of folding the web in two.

11. (new) A wearing article according to claim 2, wherein elastic members for legs are attached along the leg edges under a stretched state.

12. (new) A wearing article according to claim 2, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

13. (new) A wearing article according to claim 2, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

14. (new) A wearing article according to claim 3, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

15. (new) A wearing article according to claim 3, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

16. (new) A wearing article according to claim 4, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.

17. (new) A wearing article according to claim 1, wherein elastic members for legs are attached along the leg edges under a stretched state.

18. (new) A wearing article according to claim 1, wherein an absorbent is attached to the main body.

19. (new) A wearing article according to claim 1, wherein a gore is formed at the crotch part by the shirring when the wearing article is worn.